Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 1986-87

Saskatchewan Human Resources, Labour and Employment

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Minister's Letter of Transmittal

Honourable Frederick W. Johnson
Lieutenant Governor of the
Province of Saskatchewan

Sir:

I have the honour to present the annual report of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1987.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Schmidt

Grant Schmidt
Minister of Human Resources,
Labour and Employment

Honourable Grant Schmidt
Minister of Human Resources,
Labour and Employment

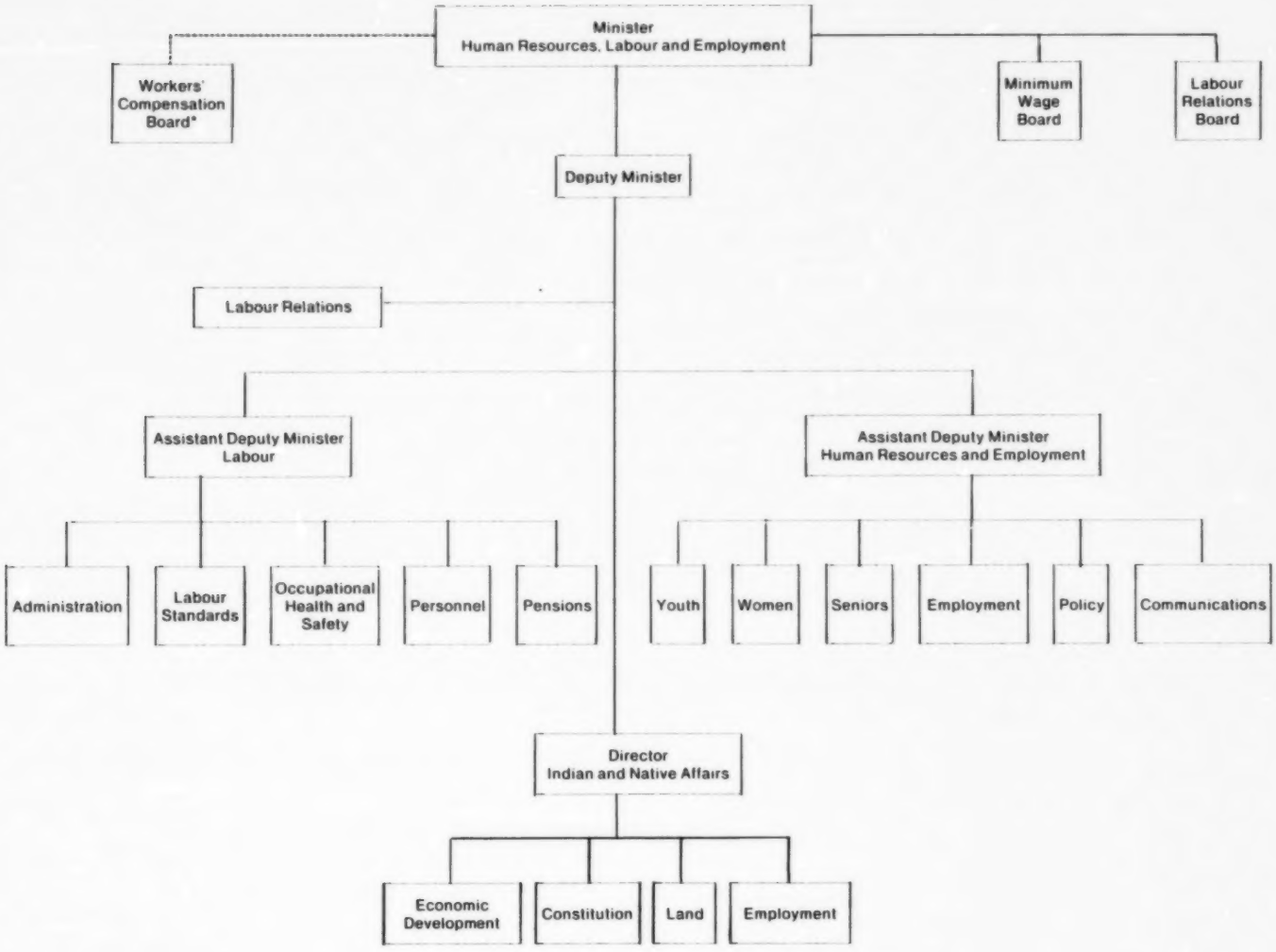
Sir:

I have the honour to present herewith the annual report of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1987.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Richards
Deputy Minister of Human Resources,
Labour and Employment

Saskatchewan Human Resources, Labour and Employment Organization Chart, March 31, 1987



* Reports to the Legislature through the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

Introduction

In 1982, the Government of Saskatchewan identified economic development and job creation as its number one priority. Since that time, Premier Grant Devine has repeatedly stated that the key element to economic development is diversification. An indication of how the Premier planned to accomplish his Government's goal of economic development and diversification was provided in the December 3, 1986 Throne Speech, when he said: "My government is aware that programs to diversify the province's economy will require the support and co-operation of all sectors. It is therefore our intention to consult widely on the establishment of specific defined targets for economic development and to encourage all citizens to take part and to therefore benefit." "Therefore," the Premier stated, ". . . a major new department of government, the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment will be created to ensure that, as plans for the economic development and diversification are discussed, the interests and needs of people are foremost".

To carry out these policies, the Premier assigned the Honourable Grant Schmidt to establish the new portfolio of Human Resources, Labour and Employment. This portfolio would address the "people" side of the employment and economic development equation.

As a result, the Employment Development Agency, Women's Secretariat, Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat, Senior's Bureau (formerly of the Department of Social Services) and parts of the Department of Labour were consolidated to form the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment. This was accomplished by an Order-in-Council pursuant to **The Government Organization Act.**

These five agencies had been responsible for promoting programs and services; advising the government on the needs of certain groups; gathering information and statistics relating to programs, wages and hours of work; and administering a full range of labour statutes. They will now be working together to continue to provide these programs and activities specifically suited to each group. Employment programs developed through job creation, upgrading and skill development are co-ordinated through Human Resources, Labour and Employment to encourage the full participation of every individual in Saskatchewan.

This unique combination of resources will enable the new department to bring considerable expertise together to ensure that the social and economic needs of Saskatchewan residents are addressed as our province continues its efforts to stimulate economic growth and diversification.

For detailed reports on specific activities and accomplishments during the year under review, please refer to the Annual Reports of The Employment Development Agency, Women's Secretariat, Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat, and the Department of Labour.

Mandate

Regulations to establish the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment took effect on February 1, 1987. The regulations were designed to be broad and flexible. The new department monitors, promotes, and co-ordinates the continued development and implementation of programs relating to employment and economic development in Saskatchewan and ensures that every opportunity to participate in such programs is made available to the people of the province.

In more specific terms, the mandate of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment is to:

- Develop, implement, co-ordinate and promote policy and programs to encourage the full participation in the economic life of Saskatchewan of Indian and native people, seniors, women and youth.
- Develop, implement, promote and enforce policies and programs respecting work-place related issues and labour-management relations issues.
- Develop, implement, co-ordinate and promote policies, programs and activities related to Indian and native people, seniors, women and youth.
- Develop, implement, co-ordinate and promote policies, programs and activities related to the labour market in Saskatchewan and the development of employment opportunities in Saskatchewan.
- Develop, implement, promote and enforce policies and standards with respect to workplaces and working conditions that are safe and healthful for employees.
- Develop, implement, promote and enforce employment standards.
- Develop, implement, promote and enforce policies and standards with respect to private pension plans in Saskatchewan.

A primary goal of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment is to improve the quality of service to Saskatchewan people through the combination of collective services and interests. Rather than providing these services on a duplicate or stand alone basis the establishment of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment will provide improved quality and effectiveness in the delivery of services.